

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MADRID 07427 241318Z

40

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 EB-07 SAM-01 CIEP-01

OMB-01 /062 W

----- 123128

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3387

S E C R E T MADRID 7427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJ: FRANCO - THE SUCCESSION DRAGS ON

REF: MADRID 7415

1. FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, INCLUDING NATIONAL MOVEMENT MINISTER SOLIS, WE UNDERSTAND THERE WILL BE NO CABINET MEETING TODAY AFTER ALL. SOLIS, REFLECTED BY OTHER EMBASSY SOURCES, TOLD ME THAT ALL THE DECISIONS THAT COULD BE TAKEN WERE TAKEN YESTERDAY AT THE INFORMAL CABINET MEETING ("CONSEJILLI"). ACCORDINGLY, WE CONCLUDE THAT THE VIGIL WILL CONTINUE SINCE EVERYONE IS RELUCTANT TO ENTER UPON THE COMPLEX AND INELEGANT PROCESS OF DECLARING FRANCO INCAPACITATED, WHEN HE MAY DIE OR PERHAPS RECOVER ENOUGH TO SIGN ON.

2. LAST NIGHT'S MEDICAL REPORT, SIGNED BY SO MANY REPUTABLE DOCTORS, IS THE ONLY MEDICAL DOCUMENT ON HIS SITUATION. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT HE IS GRAVELY ILL, BUT MANY OF OUR REPORTS ARE SECOND HAND, EVEN THOUGH THEY COME FROM GOOD SOURCES, AND THEY USE TERMS LIKE "COMA" WITHOUT OUR BEING SURE THAT THEY REFLECT HIS EXACT MEDICAL CONDITION.

STABLER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEDICAL CARE, HEALTH, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID07427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750370-0556
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751020/aaaaarth.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 7415
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <29 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCO - THE SUCCESSION DRAGS ON
TAGS: PINT, SP, (FRANCO BAHAMONDE, FRANCISCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006